



GP/1745

# 8/B  
10.29.20

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: **Teruhiko IMOTO et al.**

Group Art Unit: 1745

Serial No.: **09/701,512**

Examiner: **Julian A. Mercado**

Filed: **November 30, 2000**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 5196

For: **HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY FOR ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME, AND HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY ELECTRODE FOR ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME**

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 24, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 25, 2002, Applicants amend the above identified application as follows:

RECEIVED  
OCT 25 2002  
1700 MAIL ROOM

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please amend claim 2 as follows:**

2. (Amended) A method of producing a hydrogen absorbing alloy for an alkaline storage battery, characterized in that a first step of obtaining particles of a hydrogen absorbing alloy having a crystal structure of a  $\text{CaCu}_5$  type and represented by a composition formula  $\text{MmNi}_x\text{Co}_y\text{Mn}_z\text{M}_{1-z}$  (in the formula, M is at least one element selected from aluminum and copper, x is a composition ratio of nickel and satisfies  $3.0 \leq x \leq 5.2$ , y is a composition ratio of cobalt and satisfies  $0 \leq y \leq 1.2$ , and z is a composition ratio of manganese and satisfies  $0.1 \leq z \leq 0.9$ , with the proviso that the sum of x, y, and z satisfies  $4.4 \leq x + y + z \leq 5.4$ ), a second step of treating said particles of the hydrogen